

“Date”

Michael C. Nation, President
St. Tammany Parish School Board
321 N. Theard St.
Covington, LA 70433

RE: Ethics Board Docket No. 2020-872

Dear Mr. Nation:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its January 8, 2021 meeting, considered a request from the St. Tammany Parish School Board to approve a plan disqualifying Frank Jabbia, Superintendent of Schools, from participating in any and all supervision duties regarding the employment of his father, Peter J. Jabbia, Associate Superintendent.

You provided that Frank Jabbia has been selected by the St. Tammany Parish School Board to serve as Superintendent of Schools. Frank Jabbia's father, Peter J. Jabbia has been employed by the St. Tammany Parish School Board for over fifty (50) years, most recently assigned as Associate Superintendent. You stated that Frank Jabbia's new position places him as direct supervisor of Peter J. Jabbia. You have submitted a disqualification plan to avoid any potential violation of La. R.S. 42:1112, whereby Assistant Superintendent, Michael J. Cosse' would be responsible for the supervision of Peter J. Jabbia.. You further provided that Frank Jabbia would be disqualified from any and all transactions regarding the employment of Peter J. Jabbia and Michael J. Cosse' would handle all supervisory duties as to matters affecting the employment of Peter J. Jabbia, including observations, evaluations, salary, assignment and recommendations to the School Board.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that it approved the disqualification plan as proposed. La. R.S. 42:1112B(1) states that no public servant shall participate in a transaction involving the governmental entity in which, to his actual knowledge, any member of his immediate family has a substantial economic interest. La. R.S. 42:1112C allows a disqualification plan to be developed in accordance with rules adopted by the Board to remove a public servant from participating in transactions that would otherwise present violations of Section 1112 of the Code.

Changes to the facts as presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Governmental Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or as to laws other than the Code of Governmental Ethics, the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act, the Lobbyist Disclosure Act, and conflict of interest provisions in the gaming laws. If you have any questions, please contact me at (800) 842-6630 or (225) 219-5600.

Mr. Michael C. Nation

“Date”

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Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Gregory L. Thibodeaux
For the Board

DISCLAIMER
No party may rely on the facts or conclusions. The analysis and conclusions herein are provided for discussion purposes only, and are subject to change or revision at the meeting of the Board of Ethics at which this matter is considered.